with yellow pages from 1988 to 1992 and after bringing out the issues for the years 1988 to 1989, the contractor failed to bring out the subsequent issues and contract was terminated and their security deposit forfeited.

(b) T.A.C. Calcutta has adversely criticised delay in issuing telephone directory.

Privatisation of Telecom Services

42. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA: Will the Minister of COMMU NICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to demonopolise and privatise telecommunication services in the country;

(b) if so, what is the contemplated revised structure thereof; and

(c) the reasons to which this step is attributable?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) No, Sir. However, value-added services have been opened up for private sector participation on a licence from Government.

(b) and (c) Government are not contemplating to privatise the basic service at this juncture.

Defaults of Automatic Computerised Telephone installations

43. SHRI M.A. BABY:
SHRI TINDIVANAN G. VENKATRAMAN:

Will the Minister of COMMUNI-CATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that automatic computerised installations in telephones are not working satisfactorily;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the telephone Department has been the target of criticism from all States due to defaults occurring in phone connection frequently at short intervals;

(c) if so, what steps Government contemplates to revamp the shortcomings to the satisfaction of consumers;

(d) what is the total income and expenditure in 1989-90, 1990-91, 1991-92 and 1992-93;

(e) what is profit and loss account for these years; and

(f) what is the amount spent for maintenance per year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) No, Sir. (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) However, measures, as detailed in Statement-I, have been taken by the Department of Telecom, to minimise the faults occurring on phone connections and improve public perception.

(d) to (f) Details as per statement-II & HI.

Statement-I

— Phasing out of old and life expired electro-machanical exchanges by electronic exchanges.

— Laying of underground cables in ducts.

— Pressurisation of paper core underground cables.

— Use of jelly filled PVC insulation under-ground cables.

— Use of improved DP/CT boxes (DP-Distribution point, CT-Cable termination).

— Replacement of old fault prone underground cables and worn out drop wire.

— Use of insulated drop wire with proper accessories.

— Computerisation of Fault Repair Service.

— Improved customer interface.

Siatement-II

Total Income and Expenditure, Profit and Loss Account and Amount spent for Maintenance (for D.O.T.)

(Rupees in crores)

Year	Total Income	Total Expenditure	Profit a$ per PAL Account*	Amount spent on maintenance**
1989-90	2,841.14	1,804.73	1,150.44	216.81
1990-91	3,404.79	2.064.49	1,488.69	250.68
1991-92	3,374.52	2,424.38	1,710.12	281.30
1992-93	4,757.71	2,919.07	2,082.87	335.55

*Based on commercial accounts
**Included in Column (3).

Statement-III

Total Income and Expenditure, Profit and Loss Account and Amount spent for Maintenance. (MTNL)

(Rs. in crores)

Year	Income	Expenditure	Profit after Tax	Mtce. expenditure.
1989-90	1172.39	915.46	179.93	165.42 (average of last three years)
1990-91	1318.11	1125.04	103.07	
1991-92	1572.99	1203.76	171.23	
1992-93	1857.66	1376.29	208.70	

New Telephone Connections

44. SHRI M.A. BABY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications for new telephone connections in each state;

(b) the number of new connections that would be given in each State during the year 1994-95 and the back-log expected in each State;

(c) whether the department propose to introduce new technology in order to provide new telephone connections on demand without any delay; and

(d) the time-frame by which the above Scheme is expected to be implemented with details thereof?

jkjkkk

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) The number of applications for new telephone connections State-wise is given in statement *(see below).*

(b) Number of new connections to be given in each state during 1994-95 and the back-log depends on the availability of equipment and approved plan outlay for the department.

(c) and (d) As per 8th plan objective the waiting period is to be reduced to two years in large telephone systems and telephone practically on demand in rural/ Tribal areas at the end of 8th pain (1992—97). 75 lakh new connection have been planned to meet the above objective. Most of these will be provided from Electronic exchange.